M

SECRET

Action

Control: 13400

SS

FROM: GENEVA

Rec'd: JUNE 18,1959

Info

11:11 AM

TO: Secretary of State

NO: CAHTO 130, JUNE 18, 11 PM   *File RM*   *1/16*

NIACT

THIS MORNING BEFORE MEETING OF FOUR WESTERN FOREIGN MINISTERS, VON BRENTANO CALLED ON ME AT HIS REQUEST. PURPOSE PROVED TO BE TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP CONCERN OVER TREND CONFERENCE IN PAST FEW DAYS. HE BELIEVES WE ARE STEADILY LOSING PUBLIC SUPPORT WHICH RALLIED TO WEST WHEN GROMYKO'S UNACCEPTABLE PROPOSAL OF JUNE 9 WAS REJECTED ON JUNE 10. HE IS FEARFUL OF POSITION WE WILL FIND OURSELVES IN IF CONFERENCE CONTINUES LONGER ON PRESENT COURSE.

I EXPRESSED AGREEMENT AND THEN READ HIM KHRUSHCHEV REPLY TO THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER. HE CHARACTERIZED IT AS "GROTESQUE" AND NOT CONTAINING EVEN A HINT OF ANY CONCESSION FROM POSITION WHICH GROMYKO HAS SET FORTH. HE AGREED THAT PROMPT RECESS OF ABOUT A MONTH WAS BEST UNLESS GROMYKO REVEALS TODAY UNANTICIAPTED FLEXIBILITY.

HERTER

GDV

AMGT 374

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By _(signature)_

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